

To: Jackson, Peter W.[jackson.peter@epa.gov]
Cc: Deborah Millsap[deborah_millsap@fws.gov]; Kathleen Patnode[kathleen_patnode@fws.gov]
From: Applegate, Jeromy
Sent: Mon 11/25/2013 4:08:46 PM
Subject: Re: Captina Creek
[Captina Creek area mussels.docx](#)

Hi Pete,

Thanks for the email. Yes, I've been talking with Kathy Patnode from our PA field office about this. We plan to provide comments on the application in the next couple of weeks.

We don't have any mussel survey reports for Captina. All I have is data from the Ohio mussel Atlas: <http://140.254.118.12/website/Ohiomaps/viewer.htm>

I think you've used the atlas before? (It's put together by Tom Watters). If you need help navigating through the mussel atlas, give me a call.

Patty Morrison at the Ohio River Islands NWR provided the attached list of mussels found in Captina near the mouth, and in the Ohio River in the vicinity of Captina Creek.

Eastern hellbender is a state-endangered species (and one we're evaluating for potential Federal listing), and the best Ohio population is in Captina Creek. There has been a considerable amount of hellbender survey work done in Captina Creek. Although there is reproduction (i.e., nests found) upstream of the coal processing facility, there have not been any nests found downstream. We also plan to provide comments regarding potential impacts of the permit on hellbenders.

If there is other information that might be helpful in supporting appropriate discharge limits, let me know.

Thanks,

Jeromy

Jeromy Applegate
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U S Fish and Wildlife Service
Ohio Ecological Services Field Office
4625 Morse Rd., Suite 104
Columbus, OH 43230
Phone: 614-416-8993 ext. 21
FAX: 614-416-8994

On Fri, Nov 22, 2013 at 9:16 AM, Jackson, Peter W. <jackson.peter@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Jeromy,

I am working with our permitting folks here at EPA Region 5, and they are reviewing a permit for a coal mine that discharges to Piney Creek just upstream from Captina Creek in SE Ohio. I am wondering if you are aware of any mussel surveys for Captina Creek? I know Captina is not in your listed mussel layer, but any info on listed or other Unionid mussels in that area would be helpful. We are trying to strengthen our case for TDS and sulfate limits in the permit. Someone with FWS in WV has been working with my permit counterparts here at EPA, and I understand that she was in touch with your office, so perhaps you have heard of this permit issue recently.

I also contacted Watters at OSU to see if he had any info.

Thanks for any information, have a nice weekend.

Pete